Deduction of Rs. 1000/- from Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity of a retired employee and family of deceased

903. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 1000/- is retained while making the payment of Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity to the retired employee/family of deceased employee;

(b) if so, on which date this limit of Rs. 1000/- was fixed by Government; and

(c) what are the circumstances under which the said limit has not been enhanced so far in view of the revision of pay scales and the rates of licence fee for Government accommodation?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The rule provide for withholding of 10% of retirement gratuity/death gratuity of Rs. 1000/-, whichever is less, pending assessment of Government dues.

(b) This limit has been in existence since the promulgation of the C.C.S. (Pension) Rules, 1972 in the year 1972.

(c) So far no general need for enhancing this limit has been felt by Government.

Quota for SC/ST for employment in private and Government establishments

904. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to fix quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for employment in private and Government aided establishments; and

(b) if so, the details of steps being taken in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (b) Various instructions issued by the Department of Personnel and Training regarding reservation for SC/ST are not applicable to private establishments. Autonomous bodies, institutions, voluntary agencies etc. which receive financial assistance from Government in the form of Grants in Aid are required to provide for reservation for SC/ST by making suitable provision in the relevant statutes or in the Articles of Association of the respective bodies.

Vacant post of the Vice-Chairman of U.G.C.

905. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Vice-Chairman of the University Grants Commission has been lying vacant for quite some time; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the delay in filling up the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF M. G. K. MENON) (a) and (b) The post of Vice-Chair man, U.G.C. has been lying vacan since 12th June, 1989. The Government has recently constituted a Search Committee to suggest a panel of names for filling up the post.

Social forestry in States during Seventh Five Year Plan

906. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what were the targets for social forestry in different state for the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether there has been any shortfalls in fulfilling the targets; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The targets and achievements for afforestation/tree planting activities, which include social forestry, during the Seventh Plan period for all States are given below:-

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Target (in million ha.)	1·45	1·71	1·79	2·00
Performance (in million ha.)	1·51	1·76	1·77	2·12
Achievement (percent)	104·1	102·9	98·0	106 0 0

The target for 1989-90 is 1.7 million ha., which is expected to be achieved.

The shortfall in achievement of 2% in 1987-88 was mainly on account of drought conditions.

Unfilled vacancies of Vice Chancellors in Central Universities

907. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(c) what is the number of the positions of Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities and lying unfilled at present;

(b) what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when these would be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF M. G. K. MENON): (a) Out of ten posts of Vice-Chancellors in Central Universities, the posts of Vice-Chancellors in Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Visva Bharati and University of Delhi are lying vacant at present.

(b) The recommendations of the Committees constituted to prepare panels of names for appointment of Vice-Chancellors of IGNOU, Visva Bharati and University of Delhi have been received recently and are under consideration.

In the case of AMU, the Vice-Chancellor is appointed by the Visitor from a panel of at least three persons recommended by the Court from a panel of five persons recommended by the Executive Council. The panel of names recommended by the Executive Council for appointment of Vice-Chancellor, AMU was considered by the Court and referred back to the Executive Council for reconsideration instead of being referred to the Visitor. The dispute arising out of the resolution of the Court is yet to be resolved.

(c) The above vacancies are likely to be filled in the near future.

Employees in Central Govt. and Public Enterprises

908. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of